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12/18/2013 Minutes

Minutes for the ABAC meeting of December 18, 2013

Board members attending were Ron Sender, Jack Johnson, Scott Smith, Stephan Miller, Phil Goff and Christopher Tonkin. Doug Greenfield was absent. Also present were Joey Glushko, Stephen Quinn, and Carl Wagner.

Introductions were made all around.

*Approval of the minutes of the November meeting. The minutes of the November meeting were approved, by unanimous vote, after amendments were made.

Report on TAC activities. Scott gave us some new information about bike traffic mitigation at the Bikeway/Mill St. intersection. The traffic beacon installed at that intersection, as part of the nearby apartment development, is not functioning correctly. In addition, The Arlington Redevelopment Board (ARB) would also like to see some speed mitigation on the Bikeway at that intersection. Scott asked for ABAC volunteers to join members of the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) working group at the Feb. 3 ARB meeting, when these matters will be discussed. Stephan and Christopher volunteered to represent ABAC on the subgroup and attend the ARB meetings. Scott and Joey also told us that there is money from the developer in escrow, meant to be used for work on this intersection, that must be used soon.

<u>Bike-pedestrian collisions on the Minuteman Bikeway – Carl Wagner.</u> Carl thanked us for overseeing the maintenance of the Bikeway. He then told us that, recently, a pro-bicycling relative was in an accident on the Bikeway. He would like to see a coalition built in town to make sure that the Bikeway is safe for all users. Christopher gave a summary of what is currently being done to this end. We discussed the possible alliances that could be called on and what issues should be covered.

Report to the Selectmen on December 2, 2013. Christopher told us about his presentation of the Toole design report to the Selectmen. We discussed the advantages of the three towns working together for the administration and maintenance of the Bikeway. The Selectmen asked ABAC to convey to them ideas for improvements originating in the joint committee representing the three towns along the Bikeway. Joey told us that the Town Manager would like to reach out to the other town managers to work together on Bikeway issues. Christopher suggested that we have more meetings of the tri-town committee in spite of the difficulty of getting everyone together. Phil told us he thought that the Toole report should be the basis for the next tri-town meeting. We resolved to instigate a joint meeting some time this spring or summer.

<u>Discussion of the Bikeway Event Usage Guidelines.</u> Joey showed us how the Guidelines were modified by the Town Manager's Office. The major change was the insertion of the hours of use (8am to 9pm).

ABAC Winter Social, Thursday February 20. Joey told us that the auditorium at the Arlington Center for the Arts has been reserved. Stephen added that the speaker, George Reynolds, has answered our invitation and will make a presentation. Joey suggested "Bike Science" as the title for the presentation. In addition, Joey will contact Nina Fischer who would like to give a brief introduction to the I Can Shine Bike Camp that she runs during the summer. The arrangements for the provision of refreshments were settled.

Other Topics

<u>Bikeway Friends Group</u>. Joey told us that Lexington and Bedford already have Bikeway friends groups. This makes it easier to imagine starting a similar group in Arlington with an eye to eventually collaborating with the groups in the other towns. We decided to put Charlie McCabe, who wants to start such a group in Arlington, in touch with other friends groups in town so that he can build on their experience.

Stephen Quinn told us that he is working to start a Winchester Bicycle Advisory Committee. We gave him some advice including a summary of how ABAC was started.

*The meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.

*indicates that a vote of the ABAC Board was taken. Minutes submitted by Stephan Miller.